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Approved For Release 2003/05/14 : CIA-RDP79-00107A000100030057-8

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bf-63-2159

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Budgeting for Expanded Government-Wide Communications
in FY 1963 and FY 1964

Present: State Dept. - Mr. ⁴Sinderson
Defense - Mr. Gardner
BOB - Messrs. Osborne, Sherman and Smith
CIA - Messrs. [REDACTED]

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1. The meeting, held at 9 a. m. at the State Department, was chaired by BOB's Defense analyst, Mr. Osborne. He opened the meeting by attempting to define the "thirty-day program" and the "Mid-range program" (30 days to 18 months). There was general agreement that the thirty-day phase emphasized expansion in Latin America, but was not confined thereto, and that the Mid-range program was world wide.

2. Jake Gardner stated that McNamara had agreed unequivocally that an improved communications system would be established and that Defense would underwrite its cost if necessary. He stated that McNamara's agreement covered both the 30 day and the Mid-range programs. For the present, Defense has no intention of requesting a Supplemental Appropriation. Osborne sought to bring out that the agreement that Defense would reimburse the other two agencies assumed that these agencies would reprogram to absorb as much as possible.

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[REDACTED]

4. Osborne obviously felt that there were uncommitted funds in existing programs, particularly the [REDACTED] Communications Program, which in view of recent developments toward a world-wide U. S. Government system had become "uncommitted". After much discussion around the validity of the [REDACTED] program and reprogramming possibilities it was agreed that funds programmed at present would be released only if decisions were forthcoming which would release funds by cancelling programmed items and that otherwise funds would be held and committed as planned.

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5. In FY 1964 Defense feels that the other agencies should pick responsibility for budgeting for those items for which they are assigned responsibility. [redacted] pointed out the difficulty of providing for Agency needs in the '64 budgets without immediate decisions on many of the points now under study. It was agreed that each agency could only budget for that action which had been decided upon in sufficient time.

6. The Office of Communications is currently preparing an estimate of '64 requirements, including those recurring costs from FY 1963.

[redacted]

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BD/COMP/JMC/SWR/bef (27 Nov. '62)

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